

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

Deputy Minister
Sous-ministre

Ottawa K1A 1L1

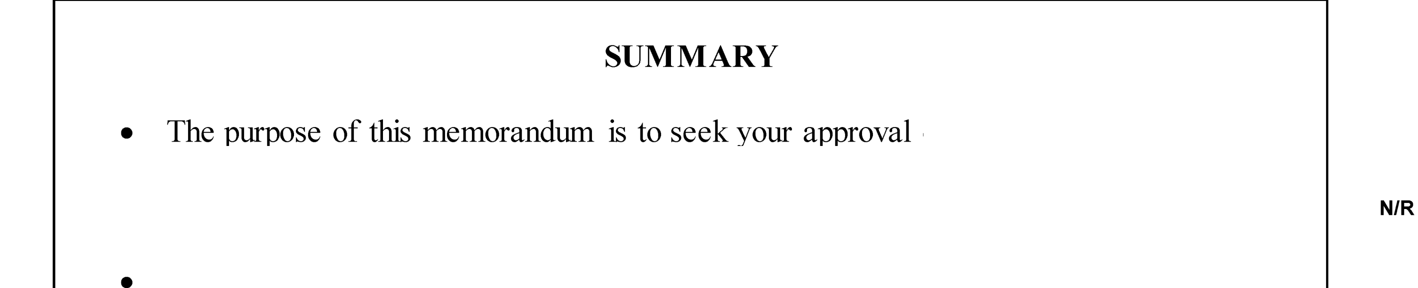
F-1236460

SECRET

# MEMORANDUM TO THE MINISTER

## CITIZENSHIP MODERNIZATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

## FOR APPROVAL




### SUMMARY

- The purpose of this memorandum is to seek your approval N/R
-
-
- It is recommended that you check the "I concur" box, and sign this memo by July 27, 2022, 1 N/R


## BACKGROUND:

- N/R 1 reflecting your mandate commitments to eliminate citizenship application fees, improve processing times, address systemic inequities, and advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.



s.21(1)(a)

s.21(1)(b)



- However, Budget 2022 did announce the Government's intent to introduce legislative amendments to the *Citizenship Act* to enable automated and machine-assisted processing and the safe and secure collection and use of biometric information.

**CURRENT STATUS:**

- Additionally, given your mandate commitment to eliminate fees, which will further enhance accessibility to Canadian citizenship through the elimination of financial barriers,

**OPTIONS**

SECRET

N/R

 N/R

**CONSIDERATIONS:**

s.21(1)(a)
s.21(1)(b)
s.23



- Citizenship application fees are set out in a schedule to the *Citizenship Regulations* (see Annex B) and, for the most part (except for grants), have remained unchanged since their initial introduction. Of note, in fiscal year 2019-2020, citizenship grants accounted for approximately 80% of applications received while citizenship proofs accounted for a little over 4%. About $133M was deposited into the consolidated revenue fund, with the grant of citizenship line of business accounting for over 95% of the revenues.

- Changes related to fees require Treasury Board and Governor-in-Council approval.

N/R

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

N/R

s.21(1)(a)
s.21(1)(b)



SECRET

N/R

## COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS

- Media and social media interest is expected to pick up once the Department communicates its plans.

-

- roducts can include a news release, backgrounder, key messages, questions and answers, social media and web updates. A more detailed communications strategy would be developed once an option is chosen.

s.21(1)(a)
s.21(1)(b)



SECRET

**RECOMMENDATION & NEXT STEPS:**

- It is recommended that you check the "I concur" box, and sign this memo by July 27, 2022,

N/R

***a/DM Campbell Jarvis e-approved July 15, 2022***
Caroline Xavier
Acting Deputy Minister

☐ I concur
☒ I do not concur

S. Fraser
____________________________
The Hon. Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Annexes (2):
Annex A -
Annex B - Schedule of Fees

**Page 8**

**is not relevant**

**est non pertinente**

Pages 9 to / à 10

are not relevant

sont non pertinentes

Pages 11 to / à 13

are not relevant

sont non pertinentes

# SCHEDULE OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP FEES

| Application/line of business | Service Fee | Right of Citizenship Fee | Last Amended |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grant of citizenship – adults | $530 | $100 | 2015 |
| Grant of citizenship – minors applying on their own | $100 | - | 2018 |
| Grant of citizenship – adoptees, minors | $100 | - | 2007 |
| Grant of citizenship – adoptees, adults | $530 | $100 | 2015 |
| Grant of citizenship – minors applying as dependent | $100 | - | 1995 |
| Grant of citizenship – stateless (adults) | $0 | $100 | 2009 |
| Grant of citizenship – Stateless minors | $0 | - | 2009 |
| Grant of citizenship – resumption (18 and over) | $530 | - | 2015 |
| Grant of citizenship – resumption (under 18) | $100 | - | 1997 |
| Proof of citizenship, adult/minor | $75 | - | 1997 |
| Search of records of citizenship (no charge when combined with a proof of citizenship application) | $75 | - | 1997 |
| Renunciation of citizenship (regular) | $100 | - | 1995 |
| Renunciation of citizenship (simplified) | $0 | - | 2008 |